

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

All pending claims are reproduced below, including those that remain unchanged and those that were previously amended. Claims 43-46, 48-49, 51-55 and 61-63 are presently cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the inventions therein, claims 31, 34 and 37 are being amended, and new claims 94-101 are being added. No claim fees are believed due with this amendment.

Claims 1-28 (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) An air conditioner device, comprising:

a housing;

a first electrode, disposed in said housing;

a second electrode, removably disposed in said housing, having a base member; and

means, attached to said base member, for frictionally cleaning said first electrode whenever said base member of said second electrode is moved within said housing.

30. (Previously Presented) The air conditioner device of claim 29, wherein said means for frictionally cleaning includes a strip of flexible electrically insulating material having a first end attached to said base member, and having a second end that defines a slit;

said strip extending from said base toward and beyond said first electrode such that said first electrode fits frictionally within said slit when said second electrode is disposed in said housing.

31. (Currently Amended) The air conditioner device of claim 30, wherein said strip has at least one characteristic selected from a group consisting of (a) said strip includes a polyester film, (b) said strip includes a polyamide film, (c) said strip has a strip thickness of about 0.1 mm, (d) said slit has a slit length of at least 0.25", and (e) said slit has a slit width less than a thickness of said first electrode.

32. (Previously Presented) The air conditioner device of claim 30, wherein an inside bottom surface of said housing includes an upwardly projecting vane disposed to deflect said second end of said strip upwardly and away from said first electrode when said second electrode is fully disposed in said housing.

33. (Previously Presented) The air conditioner device of claim 29, wherein said means for frictionally cleaning includes:

an arm, made of electrically insulating material, having a first distal end and a second end that is biasedly pivotably attached to said base; and

a strip of flexible electrically insulating material having a first end attached to first distal end of said arm, and having a second end that defines a slit;

said arm and said strip extending from said base toward and beyond said first electrode such that said first electrode fits frictionally within said slit when said second electrode is disposed in said housing.

34. (Currently Amended) The air conditioner device of claim 33, wherein said arm is pivotably biased towards an angle of about 90 % degrees relative to a longitudinal axis of said second electrode.

35. (Previously Presented) The air conditioner device of claim 33, wherein an inside bottom portion of said housing includes an upwardly projecting vane disposed to deflect said first distal end of said arm upwardly and away from said first electrode when said second electrode is fully disposed in said housing.

36. (Previously Presented) The air conditioner device of claim 35, wherein:

said base of said second electrode includes a downwardly projecting member;

said inside bottom portion of said housing defines an opening sized to receive said projecting member of said base when said second electrode is fully inserted into said housing;

wherein said arm and said strip attached thereto are pivoted upward and parallel to a longitudinal axis of said second electrode.

37. (Currently Amended) The air conditioner device of claim 32, further including a barrier wall mounted on said inside ~~bottommost~~ bottom portion of said ~~second electrode~~ housing.

Claim 38.-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Previously Presented) The air conditioner device of claim 29, wherein an inside bottom portion of said housing includes an upwardly projecting vane disposed to deflect said cleaning means upwardly and away from said first electrode when said second electrode is fully disposed in said housing.

51.-93. (Cancelled)

94. (New) An air conditioner device, comprising:
a housing;
a first electrode, disposed in said housing;
a second electrode, removably disposed in said housing; and
means, attached to said second electrode, for frictionally cleaning said first electrode whenever said second electrode is manually removed from said housing.

95. (New) The air conditioner device of claim 94, wherein said means for frictionally cleaning includes a strip of flexible electrically insulating material having a first end associated with said second electrode, and having a second end that defines a slit;
said strip extending toward and beyond said first electrode such that said first electrode fits frictionally within said slit when said second electrode is disposed in said housing.

96. (New) The air conditioner device of claim 94, wherein said means for frictionally cleaning includes a strip of flexible electrically insulating material having a first end associated with said

second electrode, and having a second end that scrapes against said first electrode when said second electrode is manually removed from said housing.

97. (New) The air conditioner device of claim 94, wherein a vane disposed to deflect said cleaning means upwardly and away from said first electrode when said second electrode is fully disposed in said housing.

98. (New) An air conditioner device, comprising:

a housing;

a first electrode, disposed in said housing;

a second electrode, removably disposed in said housing; and

a strip of flexible electrically insulating material associated with the second electrode, for frictionally cleaning said first electrode whenever said second electrode is manually removed from said housing.

99. (New) The air conditioner device of claim 98, wherein said strip of flexible electrically insulating material having a first end associated with said second electrode, and having a second end that defines a slit;

said strip extending toward and beyond said first electrode such that said first electrode fits frictionally within said slit when said second electrode is disposed in said housing.

100. (New) The air conditioner device of claim 98, wherein said strip of flexible electrically insulating material has a first end associated with said second electrode, and a second end that scrapes against said first electrode when said second electrode is manually removed from said housing.

101. (New) The air conditioner device of claim 98, wherein a vane disposed to deflect said cleaning means upwardly and away from said first electrode when said second electrode is fully disposed in said housing.